CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (Previously presented) An aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent, which is an aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent comprising water-absorbent resin particles as essential components, wherein the water-absorbent resin particles are obtained by a process including the steps of polymerizing a water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer and have a crosslinked structure in their inside; with the aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent exhibiting an absorption rate (FSR) of not less than 0.2 g/g/s, a water absorption capacity (CRC) of 10 to 20 g/g, a saline flow conductivity (SFC) of not less than 400 x 10^{-7} $cm^3 \cdot s/g$, and a wet porosity of not less than 20 %.

2. (Original) An aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent according to claim 1, which is a particulate shape and of which not less than 90 weight % is in the form of particles having particle diameters in the range of 150 to 600 μm.

3. (Previously presented) An aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the water-absorbent resin particles are agglomerate particles.

4. (Previously presented) An aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent according to claim 1, wherein the water-absorbent particles are surface-crosslinked ones.

5. (Previously presented) An aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent according to claim 1, which further comprises a liquid-permeability-enhancing agent.

6. (Currently amended) A process for production of an aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent including water-absorbent resin particles as essential components, which process

comprises the steps of: preparing an aqueous monomer solution including a water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer and an internal-crosslinking agent of not less than 0.2 mol % in ratio to the monomer; and then polymerizing and internal-crosslinking the water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer in the aqueous monomer solution to thereby form a hydrogel; and then extruding the hydrogel from a perforated structure having perforation diameters in the range of 0.3 to 6.4 mm to thereby pulverize the hydrogel to thus obtain pulverized gel particles; [[and]] then drying the pulverized gel particles to thereby obtain the water-absorbent resin particles and subjecting the water-absorbent resin particles to treatment to enhance liquid permeability of the water-absorbent resin particles.

7. (Original) A process for production of an aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent according to claim 6, wherein at least a portion of the pulverized gel particles are agglomerates.

8. (Previously presented) A process for production of an aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent according to claim 6, which process further comprises the step of surface-crosslinking the water-absorbent resin particles.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A process for production of an aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent according to claim [[9]] 6, wherein the treatment for liquid permeability enhancement is carried out by adding a liquid-permeability-enhancing agent.

11. (Original) A process for production of an aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent according to claim 10, wherein the liquid-permeability-enhancing agent is at least one member selected from among polyvalent metal compounds, polycationic compounds, and inorganic fine particles.

12. (Previously presented) A process for production of an aqueous-liquid-absorbing agent according to claim 6, wherein the aqueous monomer solution has a monomer concentration of neither lower than 35 weight % nor higher than a saturated concentration.